

On page 6, in line 8, delete "crosslinked" and insert therefor --cross-linked--.

On page 6, in line 10, delete "As UV/EB curing of printing ink binders" and insert therefor --As printing ink binders cured by UV/EB--.

On page 7, in line 1, delete "crosslinking" and insert therefor --cross-linking--.

On page 7, in line 3, delete "crosslinking" and insert therefor --cross-linking--.

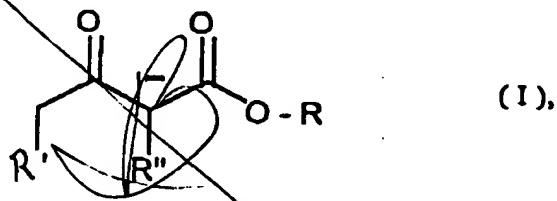
On page 7, in line 28, before "inoculation" delete "any".

### In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-7 as follows:

**(Amended) A Composition [containing] comprising:**

(A) one or more aluminium compounds with [at least one] three ligands per aluminium atom of the following kind:



[whereby] wherein R [stands for] is a [C1] C<sub>1</sub> to [C12] C<sub>12</sub> hydrocarbon residue, which may comprise 1 to 4 ether linkages and/or one hydroxy group, [dd] and R' and R'', independent of one another, stand for H and/or one [C1] C<sub>1</sub> to [C4] C<sub>4</sub> hydrocarbon residue, and

(B) one or more glycol ether compounds.

*Sub B2*

2. **(Amended)** The [Compositions] composition according to [Claim] claim 1, wherein the aluminium compound (A) is contained in the composition [with] in at least 50% by weight, [preferably 75% by weight,] relative in each case to the sum of the components (A) and (B).

*A*

3. **(Amended)** The [Compositions] composition according to [one] any of [the above] claims 1 or 2, wherein the aluminium compound is aluminium tris(methyl-aceto acetate) and/or aluminium tris(ethyl-aceto acetate).

4. **(Amended)** The [Composition] composition according to [one] any of [the above] claims 1 or 2, wherein the glycol ether compound is a compound which comprises n -( $X-O-$ )- units, wherein X may be different for each n and stands for a substituted or unsubstituted saturated [C1] C<sub>1</sub> to [C6, preferably C2 to C4,] C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon, and n stands for an integer from 1 to 10[, preferably 2 to 4].

5. **(Amended)** The [Composition] composition according to [one of the above] claim[s] 4, wherein the glycol ether compound is dipropylene glycol-mono-n-butyl ether and/or diethylene glycol-mono-n-butyl ether.

*Sub B3*

6. **(Amended)** The [Composition] composition according to [one] any of [the above] claims 1 or 2, wherein the composition additionally contains polyester of poly-acrylic acid ester compounds.

*Sub B3*  
7. (Amended) The [Composition] composition according to [one] any of [the above] claims 1 or 2, wherein the compound additionally contains colour-giving additives such as carbon black, inorganic pigments, organic pigments and/or soluble organic dyes.

Please cancel Claims 8-14.

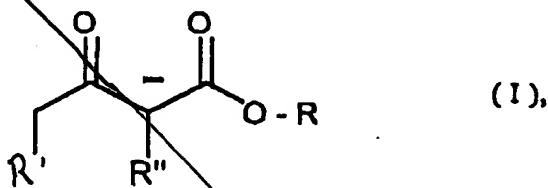
Please add the following new claims, 15-22:

*Sub A3*  
15. A composition according to claim 4, wherein said substituted or unsubstituted saturated hydrocarbon contains 2 to 4 carbon atoms.

*Sub B4*  
16. The composition of claim 4, wherein n is from 2 to 4.

17. The composition of any of claims 1 or 2 wherein aluminium compound (A) is contained in the composition in at least 75% by weight.

18. A method for the manufacture of an aluminium compound with at least one ligand per aluminium atom having the following structure:



wherein R is a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>12</sub> hydrocarbon residue, which may comprise 1 to 4 ether linkages and/or one hydroxy group, and R' and R'', independent of one another, stand for H and/or one C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub>.

hydrocarbon residue comprising reacting a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>12</sub> aluminium alkylate with a 3-oxo-carbonic acid ester compound at a temperature of above 140°C in the presence of a glycol ether compound.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the temperature is above 160°C.

A3 20. The method according to claim 18 wherein the temperature is above 140 °C for 1 to 10 hours during or after conversion.

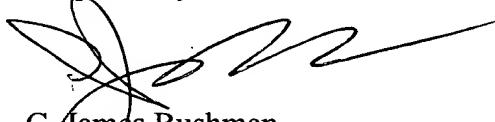
21. The method according to claim 20 wherein the temperature is above 140°C for 4 to 8 hours.

~~sub B5~~ 22. A composition produced by any of claims 18-21

**Remarks**

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance, which is hereby earnestly solicited and respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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I, Jan C. Lipscomb, hereby certify that this correspondence and all referenced enclosures are being deposited by me with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail with Receipt No. EL010850996US in an envelope addressed to Box PCT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on March 27, 2000.

By: Jan C. Lipscomb